TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

ESTABLISHED 1892

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... *Editors and Publishers*

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Tight Money Pains

One of the tragedies of the Eisenhower Administration's tight money policies is the effect it is having on farmers and others who wish to borrow money to build homes.

The FHA has been borrowing its money for home loans at a very low interest rate in recent years and lending the money under five per cent. This was a fair rate of interest which didn't cause hardship to anyone.

Now, however, the interest rate which the FHA is having to pay for its money is up to almost five per cent and the rate to be charged to private citizens is headed for seven per cent. So, the little man, who must borrow money, is paying a heavy price for the tight money policy which is supposed to check inflation.

The greatest inflationary pressure in the country today is the wage increase spiral and a major second factor is heavy government spending. The only way industries can meet the increasing wage demands of labor is to build more efficient plants, utilizing more efficient productive methods which lower unit production costs.

If they cannot effect improvement in this field, they have to raise prices and if they can't borrow money at a reasonable interest rate, they usually decide against spending for expansion and modernization. The result is that they increase the price of their product.

Wage demands keep going up, too, and so the situation is not relieved. Meanwhile, the government's tight money policy remains in effect, and interest rates are still going up.

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A Spending Congress?

Representative Clarence Cannon (D.-Mo.), chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said recently he was appalled at the attitude of the new Congress. Cannon said "a spending psychology" seemed to be the predominant attitude of many Congressmen at the first session of the Eighty-Fifth Congress and that this will be a "Spending Congress."

Cannon, 78-year-old Democrat, is the man who holds the reins on Government spending more than any other in Congress. Through his committee must pass money bills, and since the House committee is supposed to originate all money bills, the House Appropriations Committee exercises decisive control on Government spending.

Yet, Cannon says that in all his thirty-four years of service he cannot remember a time when the Government outlook was more gloomy. Not that the budget was not balanced in the past fiscal year, because it was. However, Cannon says that we are increasing our spending at such a rate that, by 1959, we will be spending more than during the Korean War, with a wartime budget. This is made possible only because revenues have increased at an unexpectedly fast rate.

Yet taxes have not been generally reduced and it seems that the unexpected increase in revenue has been used by Congress and the Administration to increase expenditures and not to reduce the national debt.

There is much in what Mr. Cannon says and we wholeheartedly subscribe to the theory that expenditures be carefully screened and, in many cases, reduced. However, there is little chance of paying off the debt, which is now over $260,000,000,000, and it seems that we are in for a long period of six-billion-dollar interest charges on this debt.

What the nation must do, if it is not to get into really serious financial difficulties, is to refrain from increasing the national debt further. This Congress must bear the responsibility of seeing to it that money appropriated this year does not exceed money coming into the Treasury.

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Is Your Home Dangerous

We have called attention from time to time to the danger that lurks in the average American home, pointing out that statistics show that about half of all the accidental deaths in the nation are due to mishaps within the home.

One survey of a large city reveals that more than half of such deaths are caused by falls. Analysis reveals that nearly half of the falls occurred on the same level, more than one-third of them on stairs, and about one-sixth from one level to a lower level.

The safety experts suggest that the number of accidents caused by tripping over objects and rugs on floors is of such size as to suggest caution in every home. Moreover, the need for well-lighted stairways is important and everyone should exercise care and patience in using stairs.

We call these facts to the attention of the residents of Appomattox County in the hope that we might help prevent accidents in the home. It will take only a few minutes to look over your home and eliminate some of the accident hazards.

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You can learn a great deal about the world in which you live if you will take the time to read some good history books.

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An enemy who becomes a friend, is usually a real friend.

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Even a conscientious worker sometimes gets fed-up on the job.

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Even a new broom won't sweep clean, unless somebody uses it.

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Be assured that politics will improve as fast as the people who vote.

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Education should be a lifelong project, brought to a halt only by death itself.

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The way to get rich is to save some of the money you spend.

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Good workers are always in demand, somewhere.

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No matter what kind of organization you can think of, somebody will join it.

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Trading in Appomattox is not an idle phrase. Upon its volume depends many jobs and salaries.

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The proper life includes a balance between work and play. This applies to grown-ups as well aas to children.

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There are always people in any community who can do anything better than somebody else is doing it.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Matthew 11-12. Devotional Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4.

Lights

Lesson for February 10, 1957

ANYONE who has ever driven in a city traffic knows what a snarl there is when a traffic-light goes "on the blink," meaning that it doesn't blink. There is almost as bad a tangle of traffic when one side of the light, either green or red, fails to operate. The driver on the blind side is not sure what he ought to do, but the drivers backed up the street think they know, and honk at him and at things in general, until the police come and straighten things out. Now suppose—if you can suppose nonsense for a minute—that a city board of aldermen decided to save money by not buying red traffic lights. "Let's not discourage our energetic citizens with red stop-lights; what we need is vigor and drive; GO lights are all we need." Or suppose in another place the city fathers decided to buy and install red lights only. People should be left to their own initiative, they might say. All we need to do is to stop them when they need to be stopped.

Dr. Foreman

God's Yes and No

All through the Bible, and especially in the teachings of Jesus, we find, as it were, lights both red and green. There are the red lights of warning and the green lights of encouragement. In the two chapters of the background Scripture, for instance, we find Jesus warning men against: judging by appearances, failure to respond to God's messenger, condemning men for "sins" which are not really sins, regarding institutions (in this case, the Sabbath) as holier than human life itself, speaking evil against God's Holy Spirit, careless speech in general, and living an empty life (the story of the restless demon). These are all warnings against ideas or action which look all right on the surface. The Bible has few warnings against obvious sins; many against sins that look harmless or even good. But also there are the green lights of comfort and encouragement. A certain philosopher, a particular gloomy one, called Christianity God's "attack on man."

Lighthouse

In the New Testament Christians are called lights in a dark world. Indeed Christ says they are "the light" of the world. So the church like the Lord must hang high both the lights of warning and the lights of encouragement. The church must never let the red light get out of order. She must never let people think a sin is not a sin, or that sin is not harmful. She must warn men of dangers that are not obvious. She must never be a Pollyanna, she must never sing, "The world is so full of a number of things, I am sure we should all be as happy as kings." Like a lighthouse, the church must warn men, both Christians and the world at large, of hidden dangers. If the church sees no harm in what "everybody does," if the church's standards are simply those of the world, if the church turns into a sort of celestial rotarian society, its members figuratively slapping one another on the back and telling one another how wonderful they are, then the church itself is in danger.

Home Lights

If the lighthouse says, STAY AWAY! the harbor lights say COME HOME. So the church, like her Lord, if faithful to God's Word, will show men not only what not to do but what to do. When an airplane is approaching a landing-field in the dark, if it is a modern properly lighted field, it will have a double row of lights on the runway, so that the pilot by lining up his plane with those lights can follow them right down to a safe landing. The church ought to furnish lights like those for the world. The church has the right and the duty to speak, as Jesus spoke, not only to its own members but to the world outside, proclaiming the principles of life which is right in the sight of God, not only for individuals but also for group living on small scale and large. The church must speak of sin, yes by all means. But a church that speaks only of sin and never of its remedy, is like a doctor who diagnoses but never prescribes,—like a harbor authority which maintains a lighthouse to keep boats out but no buoy lights to guide ships in.

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Washington Notes

FOOD EXPORTS

Exports of U. S. farm products during the year ending June 30 are expected to be 25 per cent larger than those in 1956, according to a forecast by the Agriculture Department. Last year's volume was the largest in thirty years. Factors encouraging sales at this time include: rising world population, continued improvement in foreign economic activity, rising consumer incomes, and improvement in gold and silver reserves abroad.

"SOCIAL COSTS"

The nation has been warned by the National Planning Association that it must be prepared to double "social overhead costs." These coats, representing investments in schools, hospitals, roads, airports, water conservation, and their like, reached about $42,000,000,000 in 1955, and, by 1956, may rise to about $60,000,000,000 a year and, by 1976, to more than $80,000,000,000.

THE SNARK

The announcement that the 5,000 mile Snark will be assigned to Strategic Air Command units is the first official word that the Air Force intends to push the Snark past the development stage to operational use. Aviation Week, the aviation weekly, said the first Snarks would be delivered in about a year. The guided missile is being manufactured by Northrop Aircraft, Inc.

COLLEGE ROLLS UP

Total enrollment at the colleges and universities of the nation last fall reached a record peak of 2,947,000 students — ten per cent above last year's previous high — and is expected to reach nearly 3,250,000 with additional entries during the year. The fall enrollment survey of 1,852 institutions of higher education showed an increase for the fifth consecutive year in nearly all categories. The University of California led in total enrollments with 40,788 on all campuses,excluding extension work. The University of Minnesota was second with 36,303.

NEWSPAPER ADS

Another new high record in newspaper advertising was set in 1956, with every major category except automotive showing sizeable increases. Total advertising last year totaled 243,080,202 lines, up 2.4 per cent from 1955. Financial advertising was the leader in percentage rises, with 11.5, General was up 8.6, classified 2.9 and retail 2 per cent. Automobile was off 11 per cent.

ATOMIC PLANE

The Air Force will unveil the first atomic-powered aircraft "within six months," according to a prediction by Representative Patterson (R-Conn.). Donald Quarles, Secretary of the Air Force has indicated that such a plane is in the development stage, but that it is still several years from being flown.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

The number of Federal employees declined during November by 1,830, to a total at the end of the month of 2,394,333 persons. Federal civilian agencies listed 1,214,926 employees, but the military agencies reported 1,179,407 civilians on their payrolls, 3,945 fewer than in October.

The chief support of an autocracy is a standing army. The chief support of a democracy is an educated people. —Ladies Home Journal.

stop SAVE!

on AUTO INSURANCE

A phone call may save you many dollars on the *right* protection by one of America's largest insurers. And no obligation—of course.

JAMES R. REDDING

Office over Bank of Appomattox

Dial 2564

NATIONWIDE INSURANCE

NATIONWIDE MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.
NATIONWIDE MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.
NATIONWIDE LIFE INSURANCE CO.
Home Office—Columbus, Ohio

Coleman Back From Meeting

W. Twyman Coleman, of Coleman's Feed & Seed Store, has returned from a three-day farm service conference at Richmond, which was conducted by Southern States Cooperative for managers and employees of its local cooperative service agencies.

The meeting was especially designed to help agency personnel become better acquainted with the products and services of the cooperative so they in turn will be better equipped to service Southern States 330,000 members. The conference was conducted by officials and top distribution and purchasing men from the cooperative's central offices in Richmond, Va.

Talks were presented on feed, fertilizer and farm supplies at the meeting.

A new record of $44,250,000 was spent on construction in this country last year. The outlay was a new peak for the tenth consecutive year.

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THE Farmers National Bank

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APPOMATTOX VIRGINIA

Garden Talk

By Appomattox Garden Club

Let us talk about the annuals we need to be started in February. Most of us garden like annuals because they are easy to grow and are available in color, in every size, and for every purpose. Moreover, they from tiny seeds into lovely plants within a single season, and within a few months, provide lots of color during seeds when color is usually in more permanent kinds of plants.

In northern states the seeds of the slow-growing annuals like snapdragons, petunias, verbenas, and annual dahlias should be started indoors in February. Faster - growing ones like balsam, marigold, and zinnias are better started in March. In the warmer states the seed may be sown out-of-doors. In this part of the country we may do either, but we have earlier gardens if we start some of our plants indoors.

A soil that is loose in texture, drains well, and yet holds moisture readily, is best for indoor planting. A good mixture for growing seedlings indoors is made up of two parts of good garden loam and one part of coarse sand.

Seeds should be sown at the depth indicated on the packet, and held at a temperature of about 70 degrees. After the seedlings appear they should be kept at a cooler temperature and in a south window so they will get as much light as possible. Seedlings grown in dim light and at high temperatures tend to become pale green, tall, and spindly.

The trouble most frequently encountered in growing seedlings is the disease known as damping-off, in which soil-inhabiting fungi rot the seeds before they germinate (pre - emergence damping-off) or kill the young seedlings after they push through the soil (post-emergence damping-off). Finer seeds or seedlings of snapdragons, petunias, and rhododendrons are particularly susceptible to this disease.

Any one of a half dozen methods will prevent damping-off. The soil can be baked in the oven or it can be treated with formaldehyde chloropicrin, or oxyquinoline benzonate before the seeds are planted. Or the seeds may be coated with special seed-treating chemicals like Arasan, Semesan, or Spergon. Finally, you can avoid damping-off without resorting to either heat or chemicals if you use sifted sphagnum moss for seed growing. For some unexplained reason damping-off and seed decay do not occur in sphagnum moss. The same cannot be said for peat moss. Sphagnum may be bought in sifted form ready for use, or ordinary baled sphagnum may be rubbed through a sieve.

The standard procedure is to fill flats or pots with unsterilized soil to 1 1-2 inches of the top. Then add one inch of shredded sphagnum, and water until the moss is thoroughly wet. Seedlings will be stronger if a solution of a soluble fertilizer is added in the initial wetting. Then broadcast the seeds over the surface of the sphagnum and press them in gently. Small seeds need not be covered. Place a pane of glass over the flat or pot. If no glass is available, it is best to cover even the finest seeds with a thin layer of sifted sphagnum moss. Put the flats away from direct sunlight until the seeds germinate, then admit air and sunlight as the seedlings develop.

Some gardeners prefer to fill the seed-starting container completely with sphagnum. While this makes the flats easier to handle, a nutrient solution must be used on the young plants to keep them growing vigorously.

Seedlings can be readily lifted out of the sphagnum two weeks or so after germination and transplanted to the usual soil mixture. The roots come out almost intact.

After the seedlings have attained a fair size and the weather is favorable, the annuals can be moved outdoors in the flats, boxes or pots in which they were grown, to harden them off, that is, condition them for the out-of-doors. They can finally be moved from their growing containers to the permanent location in the garden within a week or so after the conditioning period.

Have your garden or borders in mind when you buy your seed. Buy good seed and watch them grow.

LEARNER INJURES TWO

Salisbury, Md.- Roland Bowden, 22, and his 18-year-old wife, Joyce, were admitted to the hospital with severe lacerations and possible fractures. Bowden explained he was teaching his wife to drive their automobile when she turned suddenly to the right, veered off the highway, into a ditch and struck a pole. The Bowdens were thrown through the windshield.

BOY SAVED BY SNOW

Vienna, Austria, Walter Steinmetz, 4, fell out of a train as it traveled 62 miles an hour near the village of Villach. His parents pulled the emergency brake and stopped the train. The parents were amazed to see Walter come running after it, unhurt. He had landed in deep snow beside the tractks.

3 CRASHES IN 1 NIGHT

Jersey City, N. J.- Charles Burns, was awakened recently by the crash outside his home. He went out and discovered that a milk truck had skidded on new fallen snow and struck his parked car. Inside the car were notes from two other drivers, apologizing for having rammed his vehicle during the night.

FAMILY TRIPLE BREAK

Harrisburg, Pa.- Bone fractures seemed to have been a family affair, when Jimmy DiPaula, 2, broke his arm falling from a rocker, and cousins Ronald and Judy Swartley, 15 and 10, also suffered broken arms. Ronald tripped while roller-skating and Judy was sliding on an ice slope and broke her's.

COMPOUND FRACTURE

Milwaukee, Wisc.- When Clifford Miron, 38, fractured his leg when he slipped on the ice at his job, he was treated at a hospital and taken home. There he found that his son, Alan, 2, had fractured his leg by jumping off a chair at home.

Every man in Alcatraz was once a boy...

No man who ever lived was born to be bad — not Cain or Capone, not Herod or Hitler, not vagrant, liar or thief, not addict or morals offender, not gambler, forger or killer. Physical weaknesses can be inherited, but not moral ones; to suggest otherwise is to absolve from blame any man who ever violated the laws of his land or his Creator.

It's been said with great truth that there's no such thing as a bad boy — and yet every man in Alcatraz was once a boy.

What is it, then, that turns a good boy into a bad man?

In a sense, it's his legs. As they lengthen, they begin to take him farther and farther from home. They separate him from whatever degree of discipline and guidance he's known, and put him increasingly "on his own." For the first time since his first breath of life, they begin to expose him to the temptations, fears and frustrations he'll encounter until his last one.

A boy's body grows faster than his mind. If he can find decent environment away from home, if he can be given something worthwhile to occupy his time until his brain catches up with his body, there's a far greater chance that a good boy will become a good man.

That's the philosophy of Scouting. During the past 47 years, the Boy Scouts of America have laid hold of millions of our boys at this crucial, crossroads stage of their lives, and by developing courage and moral stamina have made it easier, for the rest of their lives, for them to resist the things they know are wrong. Scouting gives a boy an honorable and worthwhile objective, and teaches him how to cooperate as well as how to compete in achieving it. It makes him realize that within himself he has the power of accomplishment, and builds his self-respect. It gives him a chance to be recognized by others for the time and effort he puts into achievement. It starts him off with a pledge which no other ambition can surpass — "On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country..."

No parent, no minister, no teacher can ever be sure that their influence on a boy unfailingly will make him a good man. In walking to manhood with a boy, all any adult can do is the same thing the Boy Scout pledges — *his best.* But millions of parents rest easier, day and night, because they know that in the Boy Scouts of America they have a strong ally also doing its skillful best to help their boys become good men.

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
47th Anniversary
February 6-12

Norfolk and Western Railway